

REMARKS

1. The rejection of claims 1 - 10 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Patent Application 2003/0191676 (Templeton) is respectfully traversed as being moot in view of the amendments.
2. The claims have been amended to emphasize two aspects of the invention that are not found in Templeton.
3. With respect to claims 1, 6 and 8, the claims now require that the program have provision for suspending the conference call if one or more of the requested participants do not respond to the request. The call is rescheduled later after a delay interval. Support is found in the last paragraph of page 8 and the first paragraph of page 9.
4. With respect to claims 2 and 11, an additional feature is specified that the conference call is triggered by an external event. When the event happens, the system executes the conference call setup and polling procedure as though one of the users had just initiated it. The list of attendees and the triggering event will have been specified in advance, of course. Support is found on page 12.
5. The system may acquire knowledge of the triggering event in any number of ways. The specification lists some examples and those skilled in the art will readily be able to think of more - an alarm signal for fire, a high number for

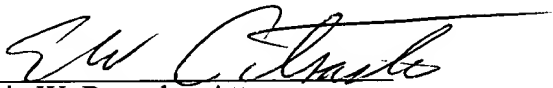
inventor shrinkage, a low number for sales, or any other number that is entered into modern databases used by corporations and other organizations.

6. Claim 2 adds the automatic initiation feature to the new provisions of claim 1. It thus deals with a situation in which a meeting is called upon the occurrence of a triggering event, but is postponed when some of the members are not available.
7. Applicants respectfully submit that the features of these claims are not shown or suggested by the Templeton reference.

For the foregoing reasons, allowance of the claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

by:


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